

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MINIARD CULPEPPER, SHARON DURKAN, EDWARD M. FLYNN, BREADON, FITZGERALD, LOUJEUNE, MURPHY, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE AVOIDABLE TRAGIC DEATH OF CARVELL CURRY AND URGING THE CITY AND MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TO ADOPT COMPASSIONATE COLD-WEATHER EMERGENCY SHELTER POLICIES

WHEREAS, Carvell Curry, a 62-year-old man who experienced homelessness in Boston for more than a decade, died on December 5, 2025, from exposure to freezing temperatures outside South Station, a loss that has brought deep sadness to outreach workers, service providers, and community members who knew him; *and*

WHEREAS, Carvell Curry was known among homeless outreach providers and healthcare workers for his warmth, generosity, and community connections despite facing significant challenges, and his preventable death highlights the consequences of gaps cold-weather response of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority and the City of Boston for unhoused individuals; *and*

WHEREAS, Extreme cold is a known life-threatening hazard for people experiencing homelessness, and winter weather emergencies demand proactive, humane, and flexible shelter responses that prioritize human safety and dignity; *and*

WHEREAS, City-owned and City-controlled properties, including indoor public facilities, should be made available as safe spaces for unhoused individuals during declared cold-weather emergencies, ensuring that no person is forced to remain exposed to sub-freezing conditions due to rigid access policies; *and*

WHEREAS, The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, as a steward of public transit infrastructure and property such as South Station, also has a responsibility to ensure that during life-threatening cold, its practices are compassionate, coordinated with city emergency responses, and do not force individuals into dangerous conditions without viable alternatives; *and*

WHEREAS, Current practices in which unhoused persons are excluded from public spaces like transit hubs during extreme cold demonstrate a need for clear, written protocols between the City, MBTA, property managers, and homeless service providers that

make access exceptions during weather emergencies to protect human life; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council recognizes and mourns the avoidable and tragic death of Carvel Curry, extends its condolences to all who knew and cared for him, and calls upon the City of Boston and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to adopt clear, compassionate cold-weather emergency policies, including appropriate exceptions for City-owned, City-controlled, and transit properties, that ensure unhoused individuals are able to access safe, warm shelter during life-threatening cold, affirming that protecting human life, dignity, and safety during weather emergencies must remain a shared public priority.

Filed on: February 11, 2026